

German Democratic Republic

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MINUTES OF EKO COMMISSION MEETINGS

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This document consists of the minutes of the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth meetings of the EKO Commission (Metallurgical Combine East). The members of the Commission are Fritz Selbmann, Fritz Walter, Rudolf Rossmeissel, and Karl-Heinz Zieger; various plant or party personnel take part in the meetings.

The fifth meeting, held 5 March 1952, had the following agenda: receiving a report from two Soviet engineers on various defects in the blast furnace operations at EKO; carrying out the target dates set up at the fourth meeting; report on suggested technical alterations in the blast furnace operation; report on furnace alterations already accomplished; consideration of the orders placed for equipment. ~~Meeting continued to 10:00 p.m. and adjourned at 10:00 p.m.~~

At the sixth meeting, held 10 March 1952, the agenda were: carrying out the target dates set at the fifth meeting; decision on proposed technical alterations; report on orders placed for equipment (11.6 million Deutsche marks placed on contracts, 11.3 million not signed by contractors because of target date or material difficulties).

The seventh meeting, held 17 March 1952, had the following agenda: receiving a report from two Soviet engineers (discussion of various technical aspects of furnace operations with frequent reference to slipshod work, indifference to the job, or unwillingness of the German personnel to change methods); carrying out target dates set at the sixth meeting.

At the eighth meeting, held 24 March 1952, there were present several representatives of the SKK (Soviet Control Commission) headed by Bykov (fnu); the two Soviet engineers were also in attendance. The agenda were: (1) The report of the two Soviet engineers (again discussion of the various technical shortcomings reported by the Soviet engineers. Bykov questioned various department chiefs, who admitted defects but offered various excuses: plant went from reconstruction to production too fast, workers were insufficiently trained, suppliers were -and are- too slow in getting needed materials to the plant, etc.). (2) A discussion with the SKK representatives of the overall situation at EKO. (3) Discussion of the target dates set at the seventh meeting.

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